

## ACCIDENTS AT WORK STATISTICS (2017)

### NATIONAL REFERENCE METADATA IN SINGLE INTEGRATED METADATA STRUCTURE (SIMS)

#### **CONCEPT 1 - CONTACT**

##### **Sub-Concept 1.1: Contact organisation**

National Statistics Office (NSO)

##### **Sub-Concept 1.2: Contact organisation unit**

Labour Market Statistics Unit

##### **Sub-Concept 1.3: Contact name**

Joslyn Magro Cuschieri

##### **Sub-Concept 1.4: Contact person function**

Head of Unit

##### **Sub-Concept 1.5: Contact mail address**

National Statistics Office (NSO),  
Lascaris, Valletta VLT 2000, Malta.

##### **Sub-Concept 1.6: Contact e-mail address**

joslyn.magro@gov.mt

##### **Sub-Concept 1.7: Contact phone number**

+356 2599 7662

#### **CONCEPT 2 – METADATA UPDATE**

##### **Sub-Concept 2.1: Metadata last certified**

19<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

##### **Sub-Concept 2.2: Metadata last posted**

30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

##### **Sub-Concept 2.3: Metadata last update**

30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

## **CONCEPT 3 – STATISTICAL PRESENTATION**

### **Sub-Concept 3.1: Data description**

An accident at work is defined in the ESAW methodology as a discrete occurrence during the course of work which leads to physical or mental harm. Non-fatal and fatal accidents at work in the European Union (EU) are collected within the framework of the European statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW) administrative data collection. The two types of accidents at work:

1) Fatal accidents: Fatal accidents at work are accidents that lead to the death of the victim within one year. Data on fatal accidents are, on the other hand, provided by the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).

2) Non-fatal accidents: Non-fatal accidents at work collected using the ESAW methodology are those accidents which result in an absence from work of at least four full calendar days. Data on non-fatal accidents are collected using information passed on to the Department of Social Security via its injury claim benefit system. Claims are made irrespective of the length of absence from work. Variables collected correspond to those listed in the EU metadata.

### **Sub-Concept 3.2: Classification system**

The following classifications according to the ESAW Methodology are used:

1. [NACE Rev. 2](#): 2nd revision of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities;
2. [ISCO-08](#): International Standard Classification of Occupations managed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) (revision of 2008)
3. [NUTS 2013](#): Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics
4. [ICSE-93](#): International Classification by Status in Employment

### **Sub-Concept 3.3: Sector coverage**

All economic activities except NACE sector T are covered in this data collection.

### **Sub-Concept 3.4: Statistical concepts and definitions**

National information on accidents at work covers any claim for an injury benefit irrespective of the number of days of absence. When providing data at EU level, only accidents resulting in more than three days of absence are transmitted.

### **Sub-Concept 3.5: Statistical unit**

Data are recorded for each accident; hence the same individual may be reported more than once if they had more than one accident during the reference year.

### **Sub-Concept 3.6: Statistical population**

The statistical population is made up of all individuals in employment during the reference year, as provided by the EU Labour Force Survey (LFS).

### **Sub-Concept 3.7: Reference area**

Data are available for Malta (MT001) and Gozo (MT002) according to NUTS 3 classification.

### **Sub-Concept 3.8: Time coverage**

Data are available from 2008 onwards.

### **Sub-Concept 3.9: Base period**

Not Applicable.

## **CONCEPT 4 – UNIT OF MEASURE**

The following measurement units are used in the European Statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW) data:

- Number of accidents
- Percentage of accidents (in relation to different totals and breakdowns)
- Incidence rates of accidents: number of accidents per 100,000 workers

## **CONCEPT 5 – REFERENCE PERIOD**

The reference period refers to the reference year in which accidents were reported to have taken place.

## **CONCEPT 6 – INSTITUTIONAL MANDATE**

### **Sub-Concept 6.1: Legal acts and other agreements**

[The Malta Statistics Authority Act, 2000.](#) The Act empowers the NSO to collect, compile, extract and release official statistics related to demographic, social, environment, economic and general activities and conditions of Malta.

### **Sub-Concept 6.2: Data sharing**

Microdata concerning Accidents at Work are not made available.

A dedicated News Release is issued twice a year.

## **CONCEPT 7 - CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **Sub-Concept 7.1: Confidentiality – Policy**

#### At National level:

The NSO requests information for the compilation of official statistics according to the articles of the MSA Act – Cap. 422 and the Data Protection Act – Cap. 586 of the Laws of Malta implementing the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Article 40 of the MSA Act stipulates the restrictions on the use of information while Article 41 stipulates the prohibition of disclosure of information. Furthermore, Section IX of the Act (Offences and Penalties) lays down the measures to be taken in case of unlawful exercise of any officer of statistics regarding confidentiality of data.

Since its inception, the NSO has always assured that all data collected remains confidential and that it is used for statistical purposes only according to the articles and derogations stipulated in the laws quoted above. The Office is obliged to protect the identify of data providers and refrain from divulging any data to third parties that might lead to the identification of persons or entities.

During 2009, the NSO has set up a Statistical Disclosure Committee to ensure that statistical confidentiality is observed, especially when requests for microdata are received.

Upon employment, all NSO employees are informed of the rules and duties pertaining to confidential information and its treatment. In line with stipulations of the MSA Act, before commencing work, every employee is required to take an oath of secrecy whose text is included in the same Act.

An internal policy on anonymisation and pseudo-anonymisation is in place to ascertain that adequate methods are used for the protection of data which the office collects and shares with the public in its capacity as the National Statistics Office. The policy is meant to safeguard confidentiality of both personal and business data entrusted to the NSO. The document provides guidance for all NSO employees who process data on a daily basis as to how anonymisation and pseudo-anonymisation methods should be applied. The policy applies to all confidential, restricted and internal information, regardless of form (paper or electronic documents, applications and databases) that is received, processed, stored and disseminated by the NSO.

#### At European level:

[Regulation \(EC\) No 223/2009](#) on European statistics (recital 24 and Article 20(4) of 11 March 2009 (OJ L 87, p. 164), stipulates the need to establish common principles and guidelines ensuring the confidentiality of data used for the production of European statistics and the access to those confidential data with due account for technical developments and the requirements of users in a democratic society.

### **Sub-Concept 7.2: Confidentiality – Data Treatment**

There are no issues relating to confidentiality when it comes to non-fatal accidents. Whenever data on fatalities at work is disseminated at a national level, adherence to confidentiality is made so as not to disclose the identity of victims.

## **CONCEPT 8 – RELEASE POLICY**

### **Sub-Concept 8.1: Release Calendar**

An advance release calendar is maintained by the NSO and published on the NSO website. The calendar projects three months of news releases (including the current and two subsequent months).

### **Sub-Concept 8.2: Release Calendar access**

[https://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/Release\\_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx](https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx)

### **Sub-Concept 8.3: User access**

An internal policy on dissemination is in place to govern the dissemination of official statistics in an impartial, independent and timely manner, making them available simultaneously to all users.

The NSO's primary channel for the dissemination of official statistics is the NSO website. Tailored requests for statistical information may also be submitted through the NSO website.

## **CONCEPT 9 – FREQUENCY OF DISSEMINATION**

Data are disseminated semi-annually at a national level and annually at EU level.

## **CONCEPT 10 – ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY**

### **Sub-Concept 10.1: News release**

A news release is published at a national level twice each year; one comprising the first and the second quarter of a particular reference year and the other consisting of the third and the fourth quarter of a particular reference year.

Such releases may be accessed on the NSO's website through:  
[http://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/View\\_by\\_Unit/Unit\\_C2/Labour\\_Market\\_Statistics/Pages/Accidents-at-Work.aspx](http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_C2/Labour_Market_Statistics/Pages/Accidents-at-Work.aspx)

### **Sub-Concept 10.2: Publications**

See NSO website for publications "Malta in Figures" and "Gozo in Figures"  
<https://nso.gov.mt/en/publicatons/Pages/Publications-by-Date.aspx>

### **Sub-Concept 10.3: Online Database**

No information is available on the NSO's statistical database. The information can, nonetheless, be accessed through Eurostat's database.

### **Sub-Concept 10.4: Micro-data access**

Not Applicable.

### **Sub-Concept 10.5: Other**

Not Applicable.

### **Sub-Concept 10.6: Documentation on methodology**

ESAW methodology is applied. The EU methodological guidelines for ESAW statistics are followed. These can be accessed online through:  
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5926181/KS-RA-12-102-EN.PDF/56cd35ba-1e8a-4af3-9f9a-b3c47611ff1c>

### **Sub-Concept 10.6.1: Metadata completeness rate**

Information about all required metadata concepts (and sub-concepts thereof) are provided.

### **Sub-Concept 10.7: Quality Documentation**

ESAW statistics SIMS reports are available to the public on the [NSO's metadata website including concepts related to metadata and quality](#).

The NSO has developed an internal Quality Management Framework (QMF) which is built on common requirements of the ESS Code of Practice (ESS CoP). A document was prepared to include a set of general quality guidelines spanning over all statistical domains. Assuring methodological soundness is an integral part of the QMF, nonetheless, the document spans also on other areas related to institutional aspects.

## **CONCEPT 11 – QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

### **Sub-Concept 11.1: Quality Assurance**

The NSO ensures the accuracy of data released to the public and prepares clear methodological notes which explain the processes involved in the collection and production of official statistics.

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Every five to seven years, the NSO participates in a Peer Review exercise through which the compliance of its operations with principles of the ESS CoP is assessed by an expert team. Peer Reviews are indeed part of the European Statistical System (ESS) strategy to implement the ESS CoP. Each NSI is expected to provide information as requested by a standard self-assessment questionnaire. Following this an expert team visits the office to meet NSI representatives and main stakeholders. Peer Reviews result in a compliance report and the listing of a set of Improvement Actions which need to be followed up by the NSI. The next round of Peer Reviews is planned to be carried out in 2022.

## **Sub-Concept 11.2: Quality Assessment**

The type of data transmitted to Eurostat as well as their timing and other aspects follow strict rules. Eurostat together with Member States systematically check and validate data transmissions according to the following legal acts and further guidelines:

1. [Commission Regulation \(EU\) No. 349/2011 of 11 April 2011](#) implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on accidents at work (text with EEA relevance).
2. [Framework Regulation EC No. 1338/2008](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work.
3. [Commission Decision 2011/231 of 11 April 2011](#) granting derogations to certain Member States with respect to the transmission of statistics pursuant to Commission Regulation (EU) No 349/2011 of 11 April 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on accidents at work.

## **CONCEPT 12 - RELEVANCE**

### **Sub-Concept 12.1: User needs**

The main users of accidents at work data are policy makers, researchers and students.

### **Sub-Concept 12.2: User satisfaction**

The last User Satisfaction Survey was held in 2014 with the aim to collect information about key users' satisfaction with statistical output.

The NSO keeps record of the number of News Releases and publications disseminated on its website; the users to whom statistical products are provided; as well as the number of requests that are processed every year.

News Releases and tailor-made statistical outputs were assessed on account of their quality, timeliness, and on their ability to meet users' needs.

### **Sub-Concept 12.3: Data Completeness**

All ESAW compulsory variables are covered in the national data collection.

## **CONCEPT 13 – ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY**

### **Sub-Concept 13.1: Overall accuracy**

As an administrative data collection, the data transmitted to Eurostat are thought to exactly reflect the number of accidents notified to the relevant national authorities. Therefore, ESAW data are considered to have a high level of accuracy in relation to the absolute number of accidents happening in Malta.

### **Sub-Concept 13.2: Sampling errors**

Not applicable. Data are compiled through administrative sources.

**Sub-Concept 13.3: Non-sampling error**

Not Applicable. Although imputations are carried out at NACE and ISCO levels, the extent of data entry errors cannot be determined.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.1: Coverage error**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.1.1: Over Coverage**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.1.2: Common Units Proportion**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.2: Measurement error**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.3: Non-response error**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.3.1: Unit non-response**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.3.2: Item non-response**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.4: Processing error**

Not Applicable.

**Sub-Concept 13.3.5: Model assumption error**

Not Applicable.

**CONCEPT 14 – TIMELINESS AND PUNCTUALITY**

**Sub-Concept 14.1: Timeliness**

Data are normally passed to NSI in the first week following the end of the reference quarter. At a national level, this information is disseminated twice a year.



### **Sub-Concept 14.2: Punctuality**

Data are transmitted well ahead of the deadline.

## **CONCEPT 15 – COHERENCE AND COMPARABILITY**

### **Sub-Concept 15.1: Comparability – Geographical**

All data are comparable on a national level.

### **Sub-Concept 15.2: Comparability – Over Time**

Data are comparable from 2008 onwards.

### **Sub-Concept 15.3: Coherence – Cross Domain**

Cross domain comparability is not possible since even though the national Labour Force Survey covers information on accidents at work through ad hoc module, the results from this survey tend to be based on very low sample counts.

#### **Sub-Concept 15.3.1: Coherence – Sub-Annual and Annual statistics**

There is coherence between annual and sub-annual results since annual figures are the total of all quarters which are disseminated by this office.

#### **Sub-Concept 15.3.2: Coherence – National Accounts**

Not Applicable.

#### **Sub-Concept 15.4: Coherence – Internal**

Not Applicable.

## **CONCEPT 16 – COST AND BURDEN**

Not available.

## **CONCEPT 17 – DATA REVISION**

### **Sub-Concept 17.1: Data revision – Policy**

At the NSO, there is currently no internal policy governing revisions that occur for all statistics produced. Nonetheless, a revisions policy is being drafted to safeguard a coordinated revisions system across statistical domains.

This policy will take account of the need and causes for revisions; time and frequency of revisions; data and other statistical products affected by such revisions; and length of periods revised.

### **Sub-Concept 17.2: Data revision – Practice and Data Revision**

At a national level, information is delivered 100% on time whilst a revision of yearly results to the corresponding past year is published in Q1 of every year. Such revisions are necessary given that some claims for injury benefits are received following the provision of micro data to the NSO.

## **CONCEPT 18 – STATISTICAL PROCESSING**

### **Sub-Concept 18.1: Source data**

Accidents at work are collected by two separate entities.

Non-fatal accidents: Are collected using information passed on to the Department of Social Security via its injury claim benefit system. Claims are made irrespective of the length of absence from work.

Fatal accidents: Data are provided by the national authority on health and safety, the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA).

### **Sub-Concept 18.2: Frequency of data collection**

The Social Security department collects information relating to non-fatal accidents through claim forms filled by the claimants for injury benefits. This is done on a continuous basis. This information is then requested by NSO on a quarterly basis.

### **Sub-Concept 18.3: Data Collection**

The national Social Security department collects data through claim forms filled in by claimants for injury benefits. Administrative data are then sent to the NSO following the end of each reference quarter. Fatalities data are sent to the NSO via an excel sheet from the Occupational Health and Safety Authority.

### **Sub-Concept 18.4: Data Validation**

Statistics are compared to previous levels. Consistency checks concerning the economic activity and other variables are also carried out. In addition, through the use of descriptive text provided with the coded variables, checks on the assignment of codes can be made.

### **Sub-Concept 18.5: Data Compilation**

After data are received from the administrative sources, the NSO works out standardised and non-standardised incidents rates using EU methodologies. In addition, some variables are aggregated using ISCO and NACE classifications.

#### **Sub-Concept 18.5.1: Imputation**

Imputations namely take place due to misclassification of economic activities assigned to the enterprise with which the injured employee works.

**Sub-Concept 18.6: Adjustment**

Not applicable.

**Sub-Concept 18.6.1: Seasonal Adjustment**

Not applicable.

**CONCEPT 19 - COMMENT**

No further comments.